



January 15, 2002

Renata Hesse
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
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Dear Ms. Hesse:

I am very concerned with the never-ending saga of lawsuits against Microsoft Inc. One day we're having lawsuits against tobacco and then the gun industry and now the Federal Government is seeking to break up a company that epitomizes the American success story!

This is why I am encouraged by the settlement and hope we can continue to see more of them. Frankly, I just do not see the point in such a suit when there is so much competition in the technology industry. This is an industry where products and service change so very quickly that the stock market fluctuates depending on what new and ingenious product is offered to consumers on any given day!

In addition to the changing times, there is now way for us to tell who is competing with whom. Companies like AOL Time Warner and Microsoft have so many facets, it is just not plausible to suggest that just any one company is dominating in all areas. Who is to say that next week there will not be a new merger that will offer consumers with a choice that is twice the size of Microsoft?

Please continue with the settlements. I know that you understand the importance of a free market and competition. As a business owner myself, I ask that you please continue to speak out against this frivolous litigation and encourage the settlements to continue to take place.

I appreciate the time you have taken to read my concerns on this issue.

Sincerely,

Walter N. Meloon
President/CEO

WNM/arp

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